



"Fred Cooper" <fredc@coopercm.com> on 11/01/2001 10:53:13 AM

To: dfars
Subject: CASE 2000-D024

November 1, 2001

Reference: Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation: Utilization of Indian Owned Organizations and Indian Owned Economic Enterprises Case 2000-D024

Dear Sir/Madam:

Across Indian country there are many excellent Indian-owned businesses that supply items or services that are excluded from the Indian Incentive Program where they could benefit if contractors working on DoD contracts utilized it more broadly.

Some supply fuels. Some stock commissary shelves. Some supply the materials for the repair and building of our bases. They all sell the fiber that surrounds the operations and security of our nation. They are called on for any number of commercial products or services.

Yet, many businesses are excluded from participating in contracts that are eligible for the Indian Incentive Option even though they could offer it to their customers. I have made inquiries and found nothing to justify this exclusion. In fact, I have found many contracting folks ignorant of the regulation and many times have seen it ignored in solicitation documents.

The Indian Incentive Program is funded to provide incentives to large primes and other partners and subcontractors to use the Indian Owned Economic Enterprises for DoD contracts. I feel it should apply to all level of subcontracting offered to Indian Owned Economic Enterprises.

Please remove this exclusion, educate buyers as to inclusion of the regulation, enforce its adherence and help our Native American and Alaska Native entities to grow. It's good business, especially during these times of needing economic stimulus.

Respectfully yours,

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